

NEWS RELEASE

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Idaho Career Information System Opens Up World of Green Jobs

The Idaho Career Information System, the only comprehensive source of Idaho-specific career information on jobs and job preparation, has incorporated the results of \$1.25 million research into Idaho's green economy and jobs with a distinct environmental focus.

The enhanced website at www.idahocis.org also has an expanded job search page in a user-friendly format with graphic interface, an improved "My Portfolio" application that can allow access to guests to comment on portfolio sections and permits users to send and receive messages and updated information on occupations, education and training opportunities.

"This year the Idaho Career Information System has taken major steps toward being an indispensable tool for workers looking for new jobs and students planning their employment futures," Administrator Christi Stoll said.

The green jobs component, which includes information about jobs in science, technology engineering and mathematics - or the STEM occupations as educators call them - includes six videos about occupations in the emerging green economy and details about scores of green occupations and dozens of green industries.

The research determined that while green jobs currently make up only a fraction of total jobs in Idaho, the state has a greater potential to expand green employment than many others.

Career Information System users can also access over 50 real world interviews with professionals in specific occupations along with videos on what various occupations entail.

For the past two years, access to the basic Career Information System has been free, and only nominal fees exist for access to enhanced exploration tools, portfolios, administrative support services and optional curriculum such as the IDEAS assessment and Peterson's Practice Tests.

This fall, those services will include detailed lesson plans, classroom activity guides, worksheets and grading rubrics for teachers and enhanced management tools that include allowing the merger of multiple portfolios for a single user and parent accounts that allow comments on student portfolios.

The Idaho Career Information System is financed by fees and the Idaho Department of Labor. It is the most comprehensive source for career requirements and postsecondary schools, financial assistance, scholarships and sources of education or training needed to qualify for specific jobs.

"With CIS, workers can make informed choices about new jobs, and students can make educated decisions about their future careers," Stoll said. "It's important to us that as many people as possible have access to this information.

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